

INFORMATION REPORT

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1. The military airfield on the northern perimeter of Smolensk (32°3'E/54°47'N), Smolensk Oblast, was about 2 x 3 km. There was a concrete runway about 1½ km long.
2. Seven hangars were on the edge of the field and four to six new large, five-story barracks buildings west of the road to the field. A fuel dump of six to eight containers, each about 10 meters in diameter and 6 meters high, was in the southeastern corner of the field. Another fuel dump was on the town perimeter just southwest of the field. Aircraft repair shops and a depot for engine spare parts and material were south of the field.
3. The field was occupied by about 30 twin-engine Douglas planes, about 10 twin-engine Pe-2 bombers, about 30 single-engine Yak fighters, and about 10 jet planes with swept-back wings and air intake under the nose.
4. There was day and night flying. Up to 30 planes were simultaneously seen in the air in daytime. The jet fighters made flights in formations of up to nine planes. The conventional fighters practiced air combats. Practice flights were also made but no parachute jumps.